

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /113 W

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R 281739Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7362

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4549

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, IZ

SUBJ: GRECHKO VISIT TO IRAQ

1. EGYPTIAN EMBOFF TELLS US HE HAS HEARD THAT SOVIET DEFENSE MINISTER GRECHKO'S MAIN ITEM OF BUSINESS IN IRAQ WAS TO TRY TO SELL HARD-LINE KURDS ON AUTONOMY PLAN OFFERED BY IRAQI GOVERNMENT. EGYPTIAN NOTED CONSISTENT SOVIET INTEREST IN STABILIZING IRAQI-KURDISH RELATIONS AND SOVIET SUPPORT FOR IRAQ GOVERNMENT'S PROCLAMATION OF AUTONOMY. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT THINK KURDISH PROBLEM WAS CAUSE OF GRECHKO'S VISIT, WHICH HAD BEEN EXPECTED FOR SOME TIME.

2. IRANIAN EMBASSY IS APPARENTLY PEDDLING SIMILAR REPORT THAT GRECHKO'S IRAQI SOJOURN IS CONNECTED WITH KURDISH PROBLEM. BRITISH EMBOFF HAS ALSO TOLD US THAT SOVIETS ASSURED TEHRAN THAT GRECHKO VISIT SHOULD GIVE IRAN NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

STOESSEL

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